

cane; to seaward the long reach of white crested breakers which unceasingly dash upon the coral outpost reefs; and again inland the view of the surrounding volcanic hills—all form, not one, but many pictures that can never entirely fade from the memory and impresses at once the justness of the claim of an earthly Paradise.

The many attractions of Hawaii are so grouped that, although numerous, they may be all viewed in a comparatively brief time. Well-equipped, speedy and comfortable steamers make regular, time-table trips to the various islands, and the tourist will find that a perfect system is in vogue, in his interest, for his comfortable conveyance and care and at moderate rates. The capital city, Honolulu, where *terra firma* in the tropics is first touched, is in the midst of many lovely resorts, and many points of interest which possess the charm of preserved historical association. Within short distances of the centre of the city are: Nuuanu pali (a 1200 foot precipice) over which the Oahuans were driven in thousands by Kamehameha, the Napoleon of Hawaii, (whose statue stands in front of the Judiciary Building) when he conquered Oahu in 1795; Mount Tantalus the highest point (2013 feet) near the city; Leahi, or Diamond Head (762 feet) the remarkable configuration at the eastern end of the bay; Puowaina or

Punchbowl Hill (498 feet), and, last but not least, the famed Waikiki Beach, where—

"The cocoa with its crest of spears,
Stands sentry 'round the crescent shore
The algeroba bent with years,
Keeps watch beside the lanai doors.

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For hours haunt the broad lanais
While scented zephyrs cool the lea,
And, looking down from sunset skies,
The angels smile, on Waikiki."

The Oahu Railway, a well-equipped and ably managed road, gives the traveler opportunity to travel out of Honolulu along a route full of novelty and interest. Over this line vast sugar plantations, and the largest of sugar mills are passed, as well as plantations of rice, pineapples, bananas and taro. By this line only can a complete and satisfactory view be had of the famed Pearl harbor and Lahee.

The famed Volcano of Kilauea (4420 feet) on the side of the massive Mauna Loa, on the island of Hawaii, is generally the mecca of tourists, and the voyage thither may be made from Honolulu by either of two routes. Hilo, the chief city of Hawaii, is the point nearest to the volcano by a land route, and the traveller thither will be well repaid for the time taken. In the whole group, there is no locality that conveys a more perfect idea of tro-

pic life than Hilo; there is a peculiar balmyness in its atmosphere; quiet reigns supreme and is seemingly only intensified by the gentle ripple and murmur of the many little brooks and rivulets that pervade the gardens and course along the roadsides. It rains often—almost every afternoon, in Hilo, but the showers are so gentle and the atmosphere is normally so free from moisture that it is a common saying, that "the week's washing, when hung out, dries quickly even in a shower." Near the Hilo Hotel, is the celebrated Rainbow Falls and other sights and scenes.

On Maui, if time allows, the visitor will have opportunity to see at the summit of Mount Haleakala (the House of the Sun) the grandest extinct crater in the world, having a circumference of over 16½ miles. Kauai—the "Garden Island"—also affords many grand and picturesque views, and so do other islands of the group.

As all of the facts above set forth are real, tangible truths, there would seem to be no reason for the capitalist and tourist to regard the Hawaiian Islands as other than next door (besides being an "open door") to the Pacific Coast of the United States as well as to the coast ports of British America, Japan and China. A seven-day's trip to reach a land flowing with "milk and honey!" only a week's voyage to "Paradise!" Why not take it?

A Dying People.

According to reports upon native affairs in New Zealand, civilization is progressing, but slowly, among the Maoris, and Rawei the remarkably gifted young native orator, whose musical and descriptive recital at the Y. M. C. A. Hall on Monday last is noticed in another column, entertains sad and despondent views concerning the future of his race. In the course of an interesting chat with a representative of AUSTIN'S WEEKLY, he gave a most graphic account of the moral and social conditions of the native population.

He considers that the Maoris, as a people, must eventually disappear, and pathetically declares that the truth of the principle that where two races, widely differing in blood and habits of life are brought into contact, the weaker will become extinct, is now being verified in New Zealand as it has already been in the sister island of Tasmania.

The wholesale introduction of firearms by the famous chiefs Hongi, Mohaka and Ruatara, soon after the coming of white men to New Zealand, first raised the black banner of destruction in Maori-land, and, for twenty years after, most cruel and bloody wars between tribes which had hitherto been friendly worked awful havoc among the male population. But to-day, says Rawei, the report of gun seldom or never breaks the stillness of valley or hill. The weapon itself is only preserved by the old warriors as a grim relic of bygone times, but whiskey, rum, tobacco, and the insane adoption of a half European, half Maori mode of dressing and living, are

carrying on a fatal work of extinction quite as successfully, and, moreover, these same death agents are materially aided by the Tuhungas (native priests). The terrible influence for evil which these so-called prophets have upon my people, says Rawei, is quite unintelligible to anyone unacquainted with Maori habits of thought. By playing upon

burials) are scenes of all that is corrupt, degrading and immoral.

After living closely-packed together in a dirty, ill-kept, ill-ventilated wharepuni (native dwelling-house) for a month, the men, women and children all sleeping together, the funeral party disperses, leaving the unfortunate hosts thoroughly fatigued and disgusted.

They lament the kumaras (sweet potatoes) that have been consumed, the precious flax and kiwi mats, the valuable green stones, their mistaken hospitality has lavished upon their guests; but, till next year, they are content to starve and go about semi-naked. Then, perhaps, another chief dies, and all the pas (Maori villages) for miles around must again send natives of both sexes to howl over his dead body, to condole with his bereaved relatives, to benefit by their misplaced kindness and hospitality, and to very probably themselves receive from the fortnight-dead corpse a substantial legacy in the form of typhoid fever. Unfortunately for the legatees, it often proves deadly to handle, and in many of the King country villages the demise of a chief who, in consequence of his rank, must be kept unburied for two or three

weeks, is simply the advance herald to a terrible onset of disease and mortality, which probably carries off hundreds of victims.

But the greatest and most insidious evil of all, Rawei declares, is sexual impurity. The harm done through this cause is not apparent on a cursory view of the social condition of his people, and a European who has no close acquaintance with the race, cannot understand that even if all other causes were removed and rendered migratory, immorality alone would in one century from now



MRS. RAWEI (Central figure) AND GROUP OF MAORIS.

the feelings of a naturally superstitious race, by terrifying their ignorant victims with incantations of vague import, and still more doubtful efficacy, these native quacks place an insurmountable obstacle between philanthropy and its objects, bar the road to goodwill and friendliness between European and Maori, and raise an appalling barrier to the advance of all civilization. No less destructive and disastrous are many of the old customs which the Maoris still retain as an inheritance from their ancestors. Marriage feasts and Tangis (native